

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 HA-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /056 W
-----041976 161205Z /10

O R 161130Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2136

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

COMSIXTHFLT

DIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL FLORENCE

AMCONSUL GENOA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

AMCONSUL PALERMO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

SHAPEUSNR

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

USDOCOSOUTH

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AFOSI DIST 65 ROME IT/IVOA

HQ AFOSI WASHDC/IVOAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: RED BRIGADES SENTENCE MORO TO DEATH

1. TELEPHONE CALLS TO NEWSPAPERS IN ROME, GENOA, TURIN AND MILAN
LED TO THE DISCOVERY OF THE RED BRIGADES (RB) SIXTH COMMUNIQUE
ON THE EVENING OF APRIL 15. THIS TIME THE MESSAGE WAS BRIEF
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AND NOT ACCOMPANIED BY A HANDWRITTEN COMMUNICATION FROM MORO
HIMSELF. IT CARRIED THE ELECTRIFYING MESSAGE THAT MORO'S
"INTERROGATION" WAS OVER AND HAD BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH.

2. THE TERRORIST COMMUNIQUE DOES NOT ESTABLISH A DATE FOR
MORO'S EXECUTION. IT AGAIN MAKES NO DEMANDS FOR A PRISONER
EXCHANGE OR HINT THAT MORO'S LIFE MAY BE NEGOTIABLE. ACCORDING

THE MESSAGE, MORO CONFESSED TO THE "PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL" WITH "FACTS AND NAMES" OF THOSE "RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BLOODIEST PAGES OF RECENT HISTORY." WHILE THERE ARE NOT "CLAMOROUS REVELATIONS TO DISCLOSE," THE RB PROMISE THAT "ALL WILL BE MADE KNOWN TO THE PEOPLE." THE COMMUNIQUE CONCLUDES THAT "THERE ARE NO DOUBTS-- MORO IS GUILTY AND HAS THEREFORE BEEN CONDEMNED TO DEATH."

3. IMMEDIATELY AFTER RECEIPT OF THE COMMUNIQUE, THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR COORDINATING GROUP HELD AN EMERGENCY MEETING. THIS WAS FOLLOWED SHORTLY AFTERWARDS BY A HASTILY ASSEMBLED GATHERING OF TOP DC LEADERS. THE DC LATER ISSUED A STATEMENT CALLING IT A "COMMON RESPONSIBILITY" OF ALL TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO FIND A WAY TO SAVE THE LIFE OF THE DC PRESIDENT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OUTLINED AT THE PARTY'S RECENT DIRECTORATE. COMMENT: AT THAT MEETING, APRIL 13, THE DC REAFFIRMED ITS FIRM POLICY OF NO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE TERRORISTS WHILE APPEALING THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO SAVE MORO'S LIFE IN KEEPING WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONSTITUTION AND PREROGATIVES OF THE STATE. END COMMENT.

4. THE TERRORIST THREAT TO EXECUTE MORO HAS PUT THE GOVERNMENT AND DC LEADERS UNDER TREMENDOUS PRESSURE. IT APPEARS PLAUSIBLE THAT IT WAS DESIGNED TO REDUCE THE GOVERNMENT OR THE DC TO NEGOTIATE MORO'S RELEASE. ANOTHER EMERGENCY MEETING OF DC LEADERS HAS BEEN CONVENED FOR SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 16. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE DC'S STATEMENT, HOWEVER, POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFRAINED FROM COMMENT OR SPECULATION AS TO WHAT THE NEXT MOVES MIGHT BE. GARDNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, DEATHS, COMMUNIQUES, POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D780163-0707
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780451/aaaabrqi.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, IT, RED BRIGADE, (MORO, ALDO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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